



2015 Indiana Legislative Wrapup

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ISDH Health and Human Services



Indiana State
Department of Health



Newborn safety incubators

- HEA 1016—“baby boxes”
 - Device designed to permit someone to anonymously place a newborn in the device intending to leave the newborn and another to remove the newborn and take custody of it.
 - Requires Children’s Commission to submit report by 1/1/16 on policies regarding abandoned children.
 - Requires ISDH to submit report by 1/1/16 with recommendations re: design, installation, registration, signage, enforcement and other policies re: creation and use of newborn safety incubators.



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Civil immunity—Volunteer health care providers

- **HEA1145—“health shield bill”**
 - Will be legal to voluntarily provide “health care services” and be immune from liability if:
 - You are licensed as a physician/PA/dentist/nurse/advanced practice nurse/optometrist/podiatrist.
 - You provide the service voluntarily, without compensation, within the scope of your license and at a location determined to be appropriate and listed on the health care volunteer registry.
 - Provider notifies the patient that the provider is immune from civil liability.
 - Patient signs a waiver acknowledging provider is immune from civil liability.
 - The provider is listed on the health care volunteer registry.
 - Must register with Professional Licensing Agency, which is implementing this law.
 - “Health care services”= Routine dental services, injections, suturing of minor lacerations, incisions of boils or superficial abscesses.
 - Not included are abortions or the prescribing of a controlled substance or scheduled drug.

Overdose intervention drugs

- **SEA406—“Naloxone bill”**
 - Allows for broader distribution of Naloxone (which reverses the effects of opioid overdoses).
 - Can be prescribed directly to someone at-risk of opioid overdose or to their family/friends or by standing order and be immune from civil liability.
 - Dispensing of Naloxone must be registered with the state trauma registry.
 - ISDH is developing a protocol for registration.

Spinal Cord and Brain Injury Fund

- **SEA166**
 - Purposes of the Fund—administered by ISDH—have been:
 - Fund research re: treatment/care of spinal cord/brain injuries
 - Develop a statewide trauma system
 - New purposes of the Fund—fund post acute extended treatment and services for an individual with spinal cord/brain injuries and facilities that offer such services.
 - Fund breakdown:
 - 10-15% (money in fund) for spinal cord treatment/facilities
 - 10-15% (money in fund) for brain injury treatment/facilities
 - Up to 50% for state trauma system development
 - What remains is for research grant purposes

ISDH agency bill

- **SEA461**
 - Child Fatality Review Teams—responsibility for conducting a review lies with the county team in the county where the incident occurred
 - Emergency Medical Technicians can now check blood glucose with a finger stick.
 - Needle exchange bill also a part of the ISDH agency bill (in response to HIV outbreak in Scott County).